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SECURITY INFORMATION

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German Democratic Republic/Soviet Orbit Countries/

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THE 1952 LEIPZIG FAIR (4 pp; German; report undated; [REDACTED])

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[REDACTED] evaluation of the 1952 Leipzig Fair.

1. General appraisal of the fair:

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[REDACTED] this fair did not live up to expectations, that it was a great disappointment. The tendency to display dummies instead of real machines was particularly apparent in the exhibit of the Ministry of Machine Building. The number of fair visitors with expert judgment of the products exhibited (potential customers) declined considerably ~~unacceptably~~ as against the preceding fairs.

Following are some of the reactions to the fair:

No new products were shown in any field. (*respective economic*)
 The representatives of trade were restricted by their plans.
 The foreign visitors from the People's Democracies merely fulfilled a political obligation.

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2. Appraisal [REDACTED] of the various exhibitors:

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[REDACTED] the following exhibits are described: Exhibits of the people-owned industry, private exhibitors, West German exhibitors, and exhibitors from the ~~the~~ People's Democracies.

3. Appraisal of the products exhibited from a technical point of view:

A. The technical fair

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The following products and exhibits at the technical fair are evaluated:

Vehicle building (automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles, trucks, etc., ship-building, ~~railroad~~ rail vehicles -- locomotives, railroad cars); machine building, tools; accessories; metallurgy; chemicals; electrical, optical, and precision instrument industries; the Soviet pavilion; and the pavilions of the People's Democracies.

B. ^{The} Sample fair

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Impressions gathered [REDACTED] from visitors to the sample fair are described.

4. Over-all impressions

The 1952 Leipzig Fair was no fair in the accepted sense of the word but a show with political tendencies. The number of visitors was less than usual and disappointing.

Foreign language document or microfilm of it [REDACTED] is available from CIA Library, [REDACTED]

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12 January 1993

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